

8. (Twice Amended) The process of claim 11, wherein the [DNA sequence encoding] *rfe* gene is from *Haemophilus influenzae*.
11. (Twice Amended) A process for the production of a *Haemophilus influenzae*-specific lipooligosaccharide (LOS) which comprises the steps of:
 - (a) growing in a culture medium gram-negative bacteria comprising (i) a core lipid structure containing a terminal heptose and (ii) a DNA sequence [encoding] comprising an *rfe* gene [(UDP-GlcNAc:Undecaprenol GlcNAc-1 phosphate transferase)], and (iii) an isolated DNA sequence [encoding] comprising a lipooligosaccharide-synthesis gene (*lsg*) from *Haemophilus influenzae*, wherein the protein encoded by the *rfe* gene is expressed and adds an acceptor molecule to the heptose molecule to synthesize an oligosaccharide; and
 - (b) recovering the *H. influenzae*-specific LOS from the culture medium.
12. (Twice Amended) The process of claim 11 wherein the [transformed] bacteria are *Escherichia coli*.
18. (Once Amended) The process of claim 11, wherein the DNA sequence [encoding] comprising an *rfe* gene is part of the [gram negative] gram-negative bacterial genome.
19. (Once Amended) The process of claim 11, wherein the isolated DNA sequence [encoding] comprising the *lsg* is contained in a vector.
20. (Once Amended) A method of modifying a terminal heptose of a lipopolysaccharide (LPS) or lipooligosaccharide (LOS) core structure of a [gram negative] gram-negative bacterial species containing an *rfe* gene [(UDP-GlcNAc:Undecaprenol GlcNAc-a phosphate transferase)] comprising regulating the protein encoded by the *rfe* gene with a protein encoded by an isolated *lsgG* gene from *Haemophilus influenzae* in order to catalyze transferring N-acetyl glucosamine onto the terminal heptose.

21. (Once Amended) A process for the production of a complex carbohydrate comprising the steps of:
- (a) growing in a culture medium gram-negative bacteria comprising (i) a core lipid structure containing a terminal heptose and (ii) a DNA sequence [encoding] comprising an *rfe* gene [(UDP-GlcNAc:Undecaprenol GlcNAc-1 phosphate transferase)], and (iii) an isolated DNA sequence [encoding] comprising a liposaccharide-synthesis gene G (*lsgG*) from *Haemophilus influenzae*, wherein the protein encoded by the *rfe* gene is expressed and adds an acceptor molecule to the heptose molecule to synthesize complex carbohydrate; and
 - (b) recovering the complex carbohydrate from the culture medium.

Please add the following new claim:

22. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein the bacteria are *Salmonella minnesota*.

REMARKS

Claims 6-8, 11-12 and 18-21 are amended. Claim 22 is added. Claims 6-8, 11-12 and 18-22 are pending.

The amendments to the claims have been made to expedite prosecution of the present application. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the claims do not narrow the claims. Thus, the amendments do not limit the scope of equivalents to which any claim element is entitled. The amendments to the claims are fully supported by the specification as originally filed, and no new subject matter has been added.

Claim 6 is amended to depend from claim 12 rather than claim 11.

The amendments to claim 7 are supported, for example, by the specification at page 4, line 27.

The amendments to claim 8 are supported, for example, by the specification at page 7, lines 5-11.

The amendments to claim 11 are supported, for example, by the specification at page 7, lines 5-28.